THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) and (b) Legislation for establishment of a Central University in Assam was enacted in May 1989. However it has not been possible to notify the date of commencement of the Assam University Act, 1989 due to the controversy regarding location of the University.

Theft of idols/Antiques from the protected Monuments and Museums

311. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made by the Archaeological Survey of India to ascertain the annual percentage of rise/fall in the theft of idols from protected monuments and museums in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the protected monuments and the museums which have shown the highest number of thefts of idols and the States in which these are located and the estimated value of the idols/antiques stolen in each case;

(c) whether a Central Investigating Unit (Antiques) in the CBI was created in 1974;

(d) whether any review of its effectiveness or otherwise has been made by Government;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what steps have been taken by Government to prevent thefts of idols/antiques from the protected monuments and the museums in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN) (a) and (b) In the absence of any set pattern or trend in the occurance of theft of idols, no such survey is called for. However, Archaeological Survey of India maintains record of all theft of idols that occur in the centrally protected monuments and archeological site museums under its control. A review of the figures for the last 5 years beginning 1986, as furnished below, indicates that only one case of thefts of idols has taken place in the archaeological museum at Nagarjunakonda in 1990 and that the theft of idols from the centrally protected monuments is generally on the decline. Some of these have been recovered.

Year	No. of theft	No. of idols involved
1986	8	15
1987	6	8
1988	5	10
1989	8	14
1990	5	13

(In the last 5 years, 3 cases of theft of idols have taken place in the ancient ruins and structural remains, Krishnavilas, Kota, Rajasthan, one in each year i.e. 1987, 1988 and 1990 involving one idol on each occasion, which represents the highest number of theft of idols in one monument.

There are no set norms on which valuation of idols/antiques can be fixed. As such, it has not been found feasible to fix the value of each and every idol/antique unless such idols/antiques are physically examined for the specific purpose of valuation by the experts in the field. As such, the estimated value cannot be indicated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No such review has been undertaken.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The steps that have been taken by the Government to prevent thefts of idols/antiques from the protected monuments and museums are indicated below:

1. Enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972, which *inter-alia* provides:

(i) Compulsory registration of certain categories of antiquities (sculptures in all media, paintings and illustrated and illuminated manuscripts);

(ii) Recording the movements of registered antiquities;

(iii) Dealing in antiquities to be restricted to licensed dealers; and

(iv) Restriction on export of antiquities.

2. Other measures include, (i) posting of Armed Guards in important centrally protected monuments|museums, (ii) maintenance of sculpture-sheds and Archaeological museums at important sites, (iii) tightening of watch and ward arrangements including appointment of Security Officers, (iv) posting of officers at important custom points to help the customs authorities and (v) setting up of Expert Advisory Committees for examination of art|craft objects to be exported.

3. After the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Cultural Properties in 1977, India is in a position to put claims for the return of stolen|lost antiquities and art treasures of Indian origin from the country where these are surfaced from the date of ratification.

4. An Antique Cell has been opened in the Central Bureau of Investigation for investigation into cases of thefts and loss of antiquities in 1974.

Utilisation of Power Plants

312. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the power-plants in the country, their individual capacity and average percentage utilisation during each of the last 3 years and the current year in the following sectors:

(i) Hydro Generation

(ii) Thermal generation

(iii) Oil Generation

(iv) Wind Power generation; and

(v) Solar Power generation;

(b) what are the International Standard percentages of utilisation; and

(c) what steps are being taken to bring up the percentage to the standard levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Total loss due to grounding of A-320

313. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many A-320 Airbuses remained off-flight and for how long in each case and how many flights could not be operated as a result thereof; and

(b) the estimated overall total loss so incurred, including depreciation of insurance, interest on overall investment, on pay of the staff and making the aircrafts serviceable again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Fourteen Airbus A-320 aircraft have remained on ground from 19-2-90 onwards. Four Airbus A-320 aircraft which were received during October 1990, have remained so from the date of their arrival.